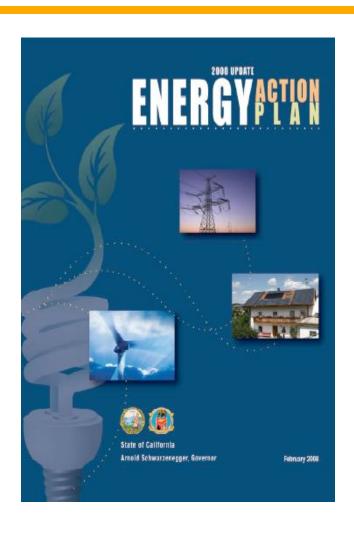
# California Solar Policy and Programs



Molly Tirpak Sterkel
California Public Utilities Commission
Solar Power 2008
San Diego, CA
October 2008



# Energy Action Plan: "Loading Order"



- Energy efficiency
- Demand response
- Distributed generation
- Renewable generation
- Cleanest available fossil resources



# CA Solar Policies & Programs

Solar Project Type	Policies	Programs
Customer-Side Generation	<ul> <li>Upfront Incentives</li> <li>Projects sized to customer load (1MW)</li> <li>Solar projects reduce demand (like EE)</li> <li>Net Energy Metering - full retail rates</li> <li>RECs retained by customer (kWh user)</li> <li>Exempt from interconnection charges</li> </ul>	California Solar Initiative (CSI)*
Wholesale Generation/ or Utility Procurement	<ul> <li>Various contract paths, price depends on contract</li> <li>Projects designed as net export to grid</li> <li>Energy and Capacity used for utility procurement obligations</li> <li>RECs owned by energy buyer</li> <li>Projects interconnect with CPUC Rule 21 and/or FERC SGIP rules</li> </ul>	Renewable Portfolio Standard  Feed-In Tariffs (< 1.5 MW)  Utility Ownership Proposals  Qualifying Facility Contracts

<sup>\*</sup> Note: There are other customer-side generation programs not overseen by the CPUC; including the New Solar Homes Partnership and programs sponsored at Publicly Owned Utilities



# **CA Solar Installations**

Solar Project Type	Programs	Installed	Pipeline
Customer -Side Generation	California Solar Initiative (CSI)	121 MW - CSI (392 MW - All programs statewide)	169+ MW
Whole Generation/ or	Renewable Portfolio Standard	~	3615+ MW
Utility Procurement	Feed-In Tariffs < 1.5 MW	~	~
	Utility Ownership Proposals	~	300+ MW
	Qualifying Facility Contracts	356 MW	~
Total		748 MW	4084+ MW

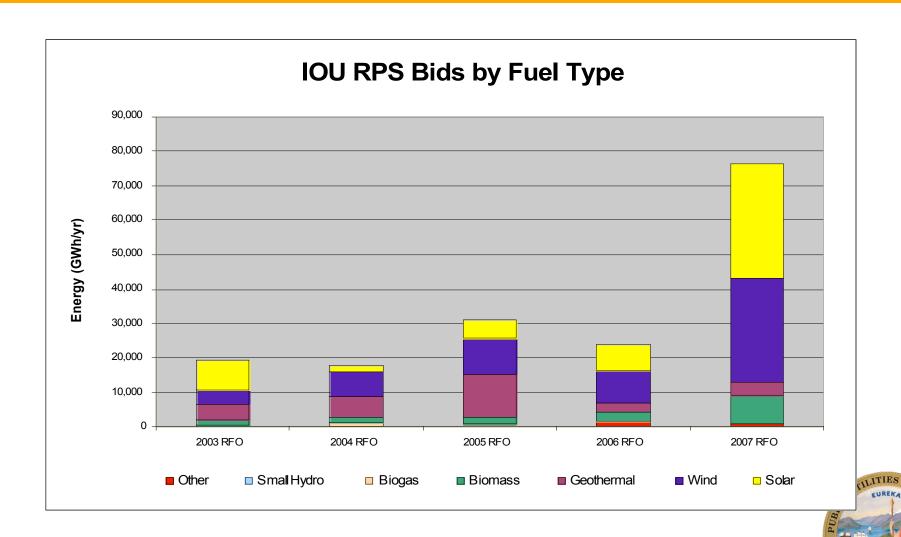
Sources: CEC Grid Tied PV Summary (April 2008), CEC Power Plant Database (2007), CPUC Staff Progress Report on CSI (October 2008), CPUC 20% by 2010 RPS Project Tracking Spreadsheet (3rd Quarter 2008)

# California's Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS)

- All retail electricity sellers (utilities & ESPs) must procure renewables
  - 20% renewables by 2010 by law
  - 33% renewables by 2020 as a policy goal
- CPUC oversees IOU RPS procurement and compliance
- Builds upon California's strong history of renewables procurement through QF Std. Offer contracts in 1980s
  - e.g. 356 MW of concentrated solar installed in early 1980s
- RPS is technology neutral
  - No specific solar goal
  - Many solar projects are in pipeline
  - And in 2007 we saw large increase in solar projects bidding on RPS contracts

# RPS resource mix shifting:

#### more bids and contracts from solar thermal and PV



# Solar RPS Projects

- 9 Solar Thermal 2800 MW
  - 1450 MW Approved
  - 1350 Pending Approval
- 6 Solar PV = 815 MW
  - 15 MW Approved
  - 800 MW Pending



						Original Online
Approved Contracts	Status	IOU	Min MW	Technology	Location	Date
Bethel Solar #1	Delayed	SDG&E	49	solar thermal	Fillaree Ranch, Imperial Valley	6/1/08
Bethel Solar #2	On schedule	SDG&E	49	solar thermal	Fillaree Ranch, Imperial Valley	12/1/08
Stirling Solar One	On schedule	SCE	500	solar thermal	San Bernardino County	1/31/09
Stirling Solar Two	On schedule	SDG&E	300	solar thermal	Imperial Valley	12/31/10
<u>Solel</u>	On schedule	PG&E	554	solar thermal	Mojave Desert	1/1/11
Green Volts	On schedule	PG&E	2	solar PV	Byron	10/1/08
CA Sunrise #1	On schedule	SCE	1	solar PV	California City	1/1/09
<u>CalRenew America</u>	On schedule	PG&E	5	solar PV	Mendota	4/1/09
FSE Blythe 1	On schedule	SCE	7.5	solar PV	Blythe, CA	10/23/09
Ausra	Pending approval	PGE	177	solar thermal	San Luis Obispo County	8/31/10
San Joaquin Solar 1 & 2	Pending approval	PGE	106.8	solar thermal	Coalinga, CA	6/30/11
BrightSource	Pending approval	PGE	900	solar thermal	Mojave, CA and NV	12/31/11
Gaskell Sun Tower (eSolar)	Pending approval	SCE	175	solar thermal	Kern County, CA	4/1/12

Source: CPUC RPS Website;

http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/energy/electric/RenewableEnergy/

# RPS Procurement + Development Process

### RPS Procurement Process

**IOU** issues solicitation and reviews bids

**IOU** negotiates contracts with short-listed developers

**IOU** submits contract for approval

**CPUC** approves contract

#### **Project Development Process**

#### **Permitting**

Barrier to 17% of 2010 RPS Energy Deliveries

**Municipal Agencies** (authority to construct, rezoning)

**County Agencies** (conditional use permit, air permits, water permits, re-zoning, CEQA)

**Energy Commission** (RPS certification, thermal facility certification, CEQA)

**Bureau of Land Management and other federal agencies** (Use permits, NEPA)

#### **Site Control**

Barrier to 14% of 2010 RPS Energy Deliveries Bureau of Land Management, Other Federal Land Management Agencies may grant right-of-way/use permits based on studies (e.g., NEPA)

OR

Lease/ownership contract with private party

#### **Transmission**

Barrier to 31% of 2010 RPS Energy Deliveries

**CAISO** Generator Interconnection (Apply & enter queue; CAISO/utility performs studies; sign Interconnection Agreement)

**CAISO Develops Overall Transmission Plan** (CAISO-utility-stakeholder process; CAISO Board approval)

### Equipment Procurement & Construction

Barrier to 2% of 2010 RPS Energy Deliveries

Shortage of equipment (turbines, etc.)

Escalating commodity costs (steel, concrete)

#### **Financing**

Barrier to 17% of 2010 RPS Energy Deliveries

Extension of Production and Investment Tax Credits needed

## California Solar Initiative



Photo: Don Schramm, P-H-D EnterprisesStadt, 7.74kw STC, May 06, 2008, Stevenson Ranch



#### Goals

- 3,000 MW of new customer-owned distributed solar
- Self-sustaining solar industry free from ratepayer funded incentives

#### Budget

- \$3.3 billion budget (2007-2016)
- Split between different utility areas

#### Long-term policy framework

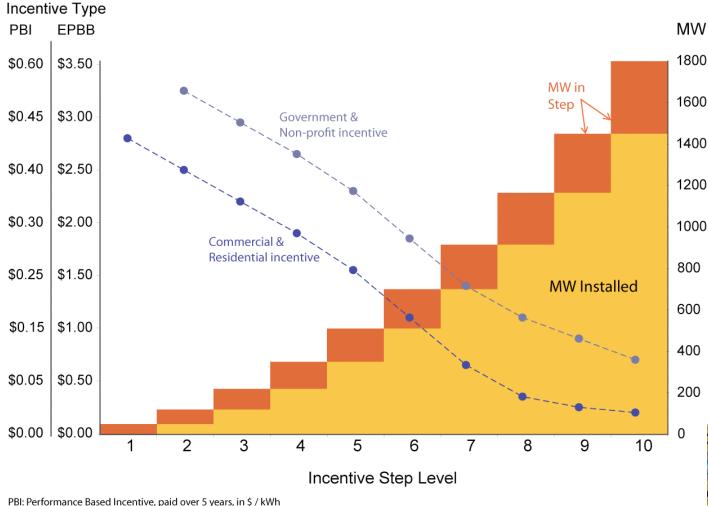
- Uniform incentive eligibility guidelines statewide
- Provides incentives that encourage solar performance
- Incentives decline based on program demand
- Funds customer-side PV and other solar

#### Other Program Components

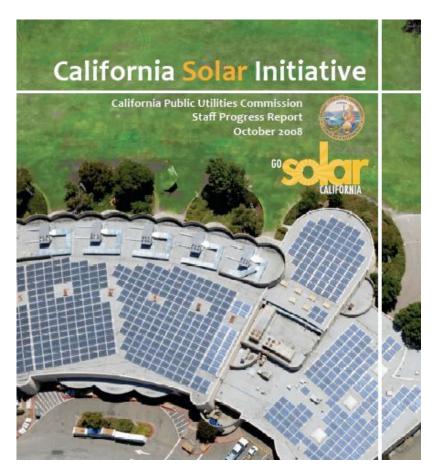
- Low Income Program
- Research & Development Program
- Solar Hot Water Pilot program



# Incentives decline as demand grows: CPUC part of program has a goal of 1,750 MW



# California Solar Initiative - 2008 Progress



California installed solar year-to-date 2008, CPUC programs only

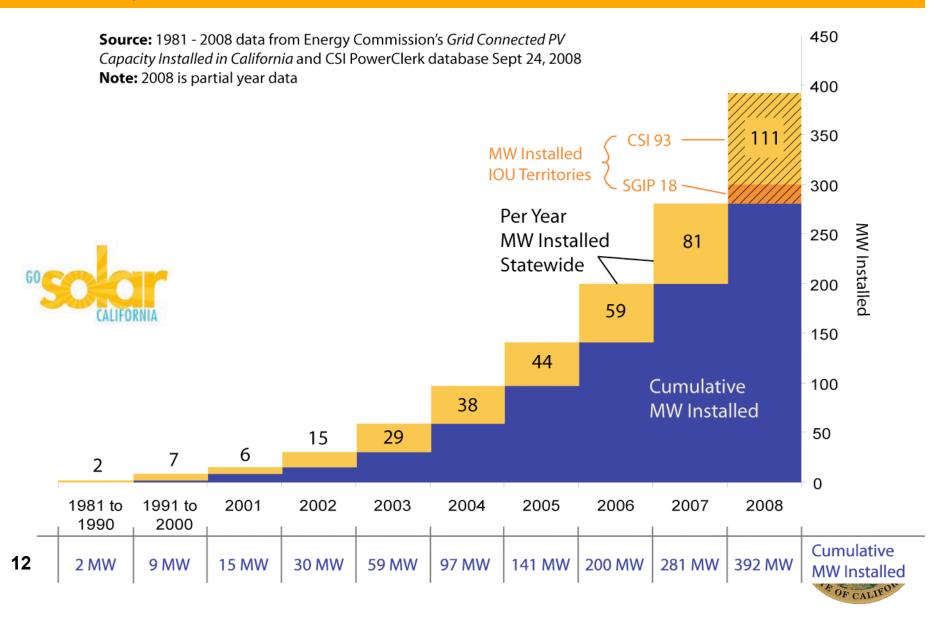
	# Applications	MW
CSI -PowerClerk	7,118	86 MW
CSI - SGIP Transitional Projects	36	7 MW
CSI Subtotal	7,154	93 MW
SGIP Projects	71	18 MW
Total	7,225	111 MW

Staff Progress Report available at: www.GoSolarCalifornia.ca.gov

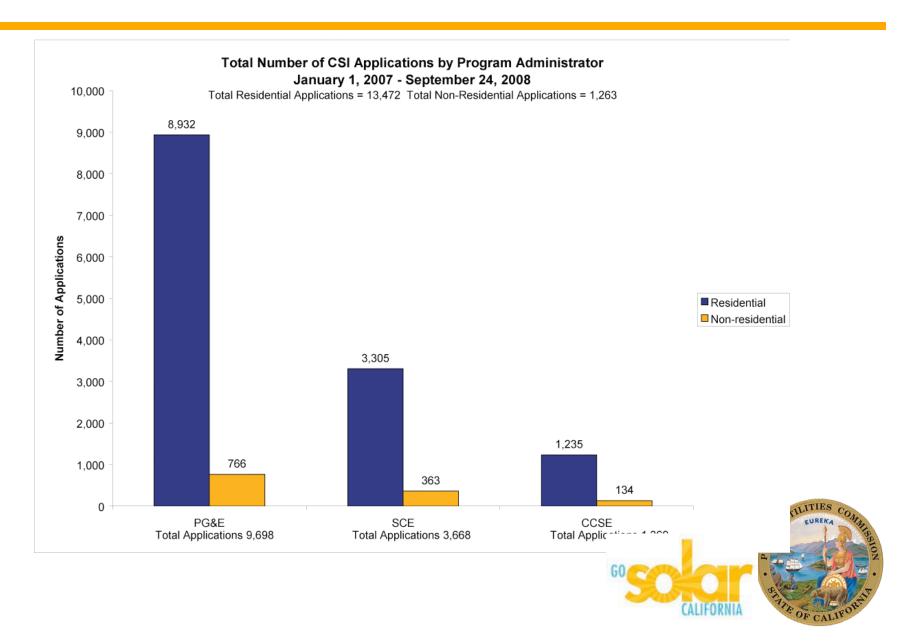




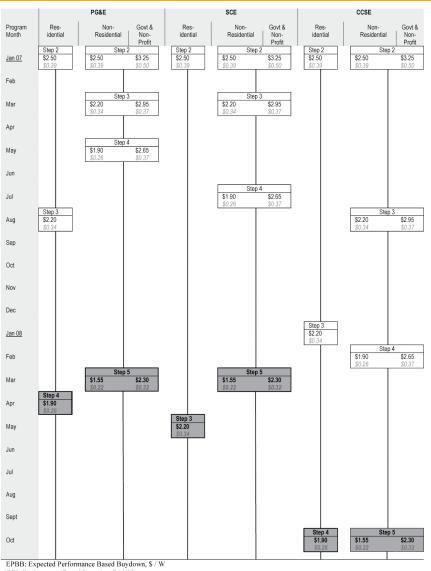
# California installed 392 MW PV at 40,000+ sites thru October 2008



# **CSI Applications By IOU Territory**



# Current Incentive Levels in CA - Oct 2008



#### **Incentive Levels**

- \$1.90/watt Residential
  - Except SCE: \$2.20/watt
- \$1.55/watt Commercial
- \$2.30/watt Non-Profit/Govt



# CaliforniaSolarStatistics.org



# Feed-in-Tariff Offered to All Renewables

- Originally only for water/wastewater customers, expanded to include all customers
- All eligible RPS technologies, including solar
- Projects up to 1.5 MW; Considering expansion to 20 MW
- Price set by law at "market price referent" (MPR)
  - Reference point of MPR is a new combined cycle gas plant
  - MPR is adjusted for time and season

	Annual Average (\$/kWh)		
IOU	MPR	Solar*	
PG&E	\$0.09	\$0.11	
SCE	\$0.09	\$0.13	
SDG&E	\$0.09	\$0.11	

\*Solar produces largely on peak so receives a slightly higher average rate

# **Utility Owned DG Proposals**

- In March 2008, SCE requested approval to spend \$875M to install 250 MW of utility owned distributed rooftop solar
  - Would be SCE owned
  - Would serve its load at the distribution level (\$3.50/Watt)
  - Would use leased roof space
  - Would contribute to RPS as utility procurement
  - Would be included in ratebase
  - Would be first of its kind utility scale investment
- Requires CPUC approval
  - If approved, SCE would go out to bid to see if any suppliers could meet the price
- In July 2008, SDG&E filed similar application for 77 MW of solar.

### Solar Hot Water

#### Current

- Solar Hot Water Pilot Program in San Diego Gas & Electric Area (Administered by CCSE)
- Budget of \$1.5 million; Target of 800 systems
- Funds gas and electric displacing solar hot water systems

#### Future

- Requires further CPUC policy decisions that will be informed by current pilot
- Gas Displacing Systems
  - AB 1470 (Huffman, 2007) authorizes the CPUC to develop a statewide Solar Hot Water incentive program
  - Budget of \$250 million; Target of \$200,000 systems
  - Funded by gas ratepayers
- Electric Displacing Systems
  - CSI program could fund SHW under "Non-PV" portion of CSI
  - Funded by electric ratepayers

# **Additional Information**

- CPUC website www.cpuc.ca.gov
- GoSolarCalifornia.ca.gov (Booth 1024)



